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BLEEDING AND ANTIMONY IN THE 17TH CENTURY.

[GUY PATIN, who was born in France in the year 1601, was perhaps the most daring phlebotomist on record. A new edition of a work containing letters written by him, with a biographical notice, has lately been published in Paris. We learn from it that he made little or no use of drugs, except as purgatives, and was strongly opposed to the use of opium, cinchona, and antimony, which was then beginning to be introduced into medical practice. The following brief extracts will show his partiality for the lancet, and the extent to which he was wont to carry its use.]

"— died in the 48th year of his age, of a continuous fever of twelve days duration, for which only two small bleedings were performed. So much for bleeding in Italy! About that time my son was very ill; but I rescued him from a bad condition of continued fever into which he had unfortunately fallen, *quia adolescentuli semper stultè agunt*, by means of twenty free bleedings from the arms and feet, with at least a dozen good purgations with cassia, senna, and syrup of pale roses, without ever using your bezoards, juleps, cordials, or confections of hyacinth, or alkermes; and yet God has preserved him to me, in such a manner that he has not lost even a single lecture. * * * Our Paris people usually take but little exercise, drink and eat a great deal, and become very plethoric; and in this condition they are never relieved of any disease that may attack them, if bleeding is not powerfully and copiously first resorted to; and yet, if it is not an acute disease, the effects are not so soon visible as from purgation. About the year 1633, M. Cousinot, now first Physician of the King, was attacked by a severe and violent rheumatism, for which he was bled *sixty-four* times in eight months, by order of his father and M. Bouvard. After being so often bled, they began to purge him, by which he was much relieved, and at last cured. The idiots who know nothing of our art, imagine that to purge is sufficient: but they are much mistaken; for if bleeding has not preceded, to repress the impetuosity of the wandering humor, to empty the large vessels, and correct the intemperature of the liver, which produces this serosity, purging would not prove useful. I have heard him say himself that the bleeding would have alone cured him, and that without it the purging would have been of no avail. Formerly,

I was called to a young gentleman of this place, 7 years of age, who fell ill of an acute pleurisy. His guardian disliked bleeding very much, and I could only oppose his hatred of it by a piece of good advice that he should call in two of our seniors, MM. Seguin and Cousinot. The lad was bled *thirteen* times and cured as if by a charm, so that the guardian himself was converted. * * *

Since I last wrote to you, I have been seized with so horrible a cold that I have been obliged to quit everything and go to bed, where I have been bled *seven* times. God be praised I am now rid of it, and only want strength. * * *

To prevent the marks of the smallpox, we employ here tepid almond oil. But I think the best remedy is bold venesection from the commencement of the disease *ad cotemporandum fervorem et extinguendam acrimoniam sanguinis exuberantis ex utraque basilica*, and steeping, during the first twelve days, the eyes and the face *ex aqua optima tepida; qualem hic habemus sequanicam*, so as to procure the evaporation of his malignant humor imprisoned under the skin. * * *

I have just been reading something of your Sennertus; I am quite in a rage; first, on account of the great number of faults there is, and secondly, because this good man was new at, and understood little of, practice. He knows nothing about bleeding old persons and children; for see what he says at p. 616 of his first volume. This miserable example excites my pity. I think the poor man has scarcely ever seen any patients, and that *nullus fuit in praxi saltem admodum indiguit Deho Natatore*. If we acted thus at Paris all our patients would quickly die. We cure patients more than 80 years old by bleeding, and bleed, just as successfully, and without any ill effects, children two or three months old. I could point out at least two hundred persons living here who were bled in their infancy. I think the patients in Germany are much to be pitied with such physicians, who have indeed only the names of the qualities they bear, and who, understanding nothing of remedies or method, seek for the secrets of chemistry in Paracelsus and Crolius, who were never physicians at all. A day does not pass in Paris in which we do not bleed several infants at the breast and septuagenarians *qui singuli feliciter inde convalescunt*. There is not a woman in Paris who does not believe in its efficacy, and who would refuse to allow her infant to be bled for the fever of smallpox or measles, convulsions, or teething, so convinced have they become by experience."

[As already mentioned, Patin was strongly opposed to the use of antimony. Others, also, were opposed to the use of this drug, and the Faculty of Medicine, in 1566 and 1615, passed solemn decrees against it as a virulent poison, which were even sanctioned by Parliament, though afterwards formally reversed. Patin retained his opposition to the last, and when the young king Louis XIV. fell ill at Calais, and antimony was administered and received the credit of curing him, Patin utterly denied its agency, and gave the following version of the cure.]

"The king is a well-made, strong and tall prince, 20 years of age, who has never drank or injured his frame by any kind of debauchery.

His disease was but an excess of heat from having ridden too long in a burning sun, which, according to Galen, is one of the most powerful external causes of disease; assisted by the infected air of the marshy districts in which the army is encamped. It was a putrid continued fever, which only required bleeding and a refreshing diet, with slight purgatives. * * * *

Three purgative apozemes, composed of cassia and senna, were prepared. The Cardinal inquired if there was anything unusual to be put into them. Esprit, physician to the Duke of Anjou, said some of the emetic wine might be added. Pretty politics these of our times! The physician of the next heir and immediate successor to the crown called into consultation, and daring to prescribe his stibial poison. If his advice had been followed and the king had died, his master would have become king, and he the king's first physician. *Non sic erat in principio*. Formerly the physicians of the princes of the blood were never called in to a sick king, for very good political reasons; but now-a-days everything is reversed. Guenant stated that the emetic was in no wise to be feared if only a little were used, and Mazarin, therefore, directed it to be given, an ounce of the wine being placed in three doses. The king took one of these, which in two hours began to act, and in the course of the day he went twenty-two times to stool, which fatigued him much. In the evening his fever was much increased; he passed a very bad night, and early in the morning they were obliged to bleed him, and regretted having given him the antimony, for if matters had become still worse from it they would not have failed to have suffered. The king was again bled twice, and then re-purged, after which he felt better. So foolish is it then to say that the emetic wine saved him, since he took as little as could be; and no other medicine would he take until they swore to him it contained none of it, so much did he detest it. What saved the king was his innocence, his age and strength, nine good bleedings, and the prayers of *worthy people like us*, and especially of the courtiers and officers, who would have been terribly afflicted at his death, particularly Mazarin."

[After the decree for reversing the edict against antimony was passed, Patin writes:—]

"These gentlemen declare a poison is not a poison in the hands of the physician. They speak against their own experience, for most of them have killed their wives, their children, or their friends, with it; and they speak well of the drug in order to curry favor with the apothecaries, although they do not dare to taste a drop of it themselves. I console myself; for there must be heresies in order that good men may be proved; but it has never been my humor to worship the golden calf, or to consider fortune as a goddess. God preserve me from doing so in future. I am content with the mediocrity of mine, peace and little. When the wind changes, all these champions of antimony will be dissipated like the smoke of their own furnaces. *Ipsi peribunt: dii meliora piiis—Vale.*"

BURNETT'S DISINFECTING FLUID.

[We find the following remarks, on the use of the chloride of zinc as a disinfecting agent, in a late No. of the London Lancet. This is not the article alluded to in last week's Journal; but whether it is in any way superior to that, as by the representations here made appears to be the case, time alone can determine. The subject is at all times an important one, and any substance which is put forth, on good authority, as effecting so much good as is claimed for this fluid, should receive the attention of the medical profession.]

The chloride of zinc in solution, it appears from a parliamentary document which has just been issued, has been employed extensively as a disinfectant in dissecting rooms, the wards of hospitals, and in the royal navy, and, according to the reports which we have seen, has been eminently successful in effecting the objects for which it is designed. The medical officers at Haslar Hospital state that it has been used in that Hospital in the close-stools of patients affected with dysentery, in the water-closets and cesspools, and also in the wards, when the air was tainted by purulent expectoration or discharge from sores, with the effect of immediately removing the disagreeable odors. It has also been used in the surgery with good effect, in removing the smell of putrefying animal substances, and the odor of dead bodies under inspection; when employed as a dressing to ulcers, it removes the disagreeable smell of purulent matter, and, in the proportion of one part of the clear solution to eighteen of water, it preserves subjects of natural history from putrefaction, and in a fit state of anatomical inspection, after more than a year has elapsed. A similar testimony in favor of the solution of the chloride, is borne by the Assistant Surgeon of the Marine Hospital at Woolwich, who adds, "the great advantage which the chloride of zinc possesses over other agents employed for a like purpose, is, that it removes the disagreeable effluvia, without leaving one little less offensive in its room, and may therefore be made use of wherever this effect is required—in private as well as public buildings, in the sick bed-chamber no less than in the crowded ward. The method adopted, at this Hospital, is to supply each of the wards with a bottle of the diluted solution, which the nurses have directions to use whenever occasion may require, besides sprinkling it over the floors before the morning and evening visits are made."

Its utility in the dissecting-room is confirmed by the statements made by Mr. Bowman, Dr. Sharpey, Mr. Partridge, Dr. Murray and Dr. V. Pettigrew, who concur in asserting, that in a proper degree of dilution its success is complete, and that it appears to preserve the color and texture of the parts very admirably. It has, further, the very important advantage of not acting on the steel instruments employed, being in this respect equal to alcohol. Dr. Methven especially mentions an instance in which the solution corrected advancing putrescence, and enabled him to dissect during July. He believes, further, it will be the means of saving many valuable lives, which are annually lost by wounds

received in the course of dissection, as, while dissecting this putrid body, he cut himself several times, and once received a punctured wound, without any bad consequences arising. Mr. M'Bain, of the "Mastiff," adds his testimony "to the rapid and perfect effects of the chloride of zinc solution upon animal matter in a state of putrefaction. Having frequent opportunities of dissecting or examining large fish, &c., cast on shore, whilst undergoing decomposition, the task has been occasionally anything but agreeable, for want of a convenient power to destroy the putrefactive process. The chloride in these cases acts like magic; and as a great practical agent over one of the most important conditions of animal and vegetable matter—viz., putrefaction, it stands unrivalled." Its influence on board ship, in annihilating the offensive smell of bilge-water, and in sweetening between decks, is shown by the united evidence of captains, surgeons, and masters in the royal navy. Among other vessels it was used on board the "Victoria and Albert," royal yacht, to remove a more than ordinary stench of bilge-water, and other offensive odors, with the most complete success. The surgeon states that she has remained comparatively sweet ever since, and when a bilge-water smell is occasionally perceptible, a slight application of the fluid removes it. The solution has also been used for very disgusting privies, &c., effluvia from which it quickly neutralizes.

Mr. Henderson, the Surgeon to the Dock-yard at Portsmouth, has employed the fluid in a severe case of open cancer, the fœtor from which was intolerable to the patient and attendants; this it destroyed so long as the dressings were kept moist therewith. Professor Quain has used it, he says, in the treatment of sloughing tumors with beneficial results, and he has no doubt it will supplant the chloride of lime and soda altogether in the removal of fœtid odor. Mr. Gibson, Surgeon of the "Eurydice," employed it in a case of angry ulcer, in the proportion of one part to four of water. An eschar was the result, the separation of which left the ulcer in a healthy condition.

Several naval and other medical men have employed it as a disinfectant in hospitals, and on board ship, the general result being a marked diminution in the rate of mortality. Dr. Lindsay, Dr. Cronin, and Dr. Connor, of Cork, all bear testimony to its beneficial effects. Mr. Verling, Surgeon of the "Vengeance," thus speaks:—

"Having used the chloride of zinc rather extensively on board Her Majesty's ship 'Vengeance,' whilst employed in the conveyance of troops, I think proper to report to you the result thereof. We carried the first battalion of the forty-second regiment, consisting of about 700 men, women and children, from Malta to Bermuda. Measles had prevailed epidemically in the regiment previously to their embarkation, but we received none on board laboring under the disease; yet, after being ten days at sea, several cases occurred simultaneously among the soldiers, and, on the 1st of April, having been then a month at sea, the disease appeared among our own people, ten cases occurring on that day, and from that day to the 15th of the month, when we arrived at Bermuda, fresh cases were of almost daily occurrence, either among our own peo-

ple or the troops. On getting rid of the troops, which we did at Bermuda, my attention was of course specially directed to every means whereby the contagion could be destroyed. Cleanliness and ventilation were duly attended to, and every part of the ship where the sick had been, after being cleaned and aired, was sponged well over with the solution of chloride of zinc several times. Than the result, nothing could be better; the disease totally ceased, no fresh case occurring after. On our passage from Halifax, with the sixtieth regiment on board, the weather was so bad, and the ship working so much, that it was quite impossible to open any of the lower-deck ports, on which deck the whole of the people lived, troops as well as our own people, for eight days; the air throughout the deck was exceedingly vitiated with every mixture of noxious smell, but the free use of the chloride of zinc tended, in a most surprising manner, to do away with the bad smell; so much so, that the surgeon of the regiment came to me to get some to use in the part of the ship where the ladies of the officers were. The effect of the chloride of zinc is most obvious in correcting all bad and offensive effluvia; and from the sudden and surprising manner in which the measles disappeared after its use, it is not, I think, too much to say, that it must have been very instrumental in decomposing the miasm, or state of atmosphere in the ship, which tended to the generation of the disease."

From all these statements, then, it is clear that the solution of the chloride of zinc is a powerful agent in neutralizing noxious gases, and in arresting the progress of decomposition. Sir W. Burnett has therefore rendered, by its discovery, a great benefit to suffering humanity. On board ship, its influence in removing the offensive odors from bilge-water can hardly be too highly estimated, while its action in sweetening the wards of hospitals, and destroying noxious and infectious effluvia, seems to be equally evident.

INHALATION OF ETHER IN LABOR.

By Jonathan Clark, M.D.

Mrs. N., of Blockley, aged 26, was taken unwell on the afternoon of Saturday, the 14th of September. She complained of great weakness, vertigo, sickness of stomach, and pains in the back and limbs. The bowels were disturbed several times during the afternoon and evening; the evacuations were black and very fetid. The matter ejected from the stomach, as she vomited repeatedly, was also of a bilious character. Her constitution had been very much impaired three years since, by an attack of autumnal fever, from the effects of which she has not yet recovered.

During this her first pregnancy, she has suffered much from indigestion, a train of nervous symptoms of a distressing character, together with general *œdema*.

At 8 o'clock in the morning, after a restless night, of which she has no recollection, she was seized with convulsions, which continued to

recur; the interval between the convulsions decreasing, while the violence and duration of the paroxysms increased. At 10 o'clock, when I saw her, she had had six convulsions.

Her perceptive faculties were altogether obliterated. As each paroxysm subsided, she was observed to recover her faculties less perfectly, till they were wholly lost, with the exception, perhaps, of the ability to feel pain, which appeared to be regained simultaneously with the power of the uterus to contract; a slight contraction of which served only to usher in another paroxysm. An examination showed that but little progress had been made in the labor; the os uteri was dilated to the extent of an inch and a half, the membranes were entire, and the head was presenting. Her pulse was 110 in the minute. As she had complained of headache before the convulsions came on, and as the pulse appeared of a character to bear it, I took sixteen ounces of blood from the arm.

This had no favorable effect. On the contrary, the spasms continued to increase in force and frequency. The pulse rose to 135 in a minute, becoming much weaker. The extremities became cold, notwithstanding the application of sinapisms, and the surface was generally cold and clammy, and of a livid hue. Under these circumstances, it occurred to me that the vapor of ether might act as a stimulant, and also change the disordered action then existing. By administering the vapor, a worse state of things could not be induced than already existed, for it was evident to me, from the untoward progress the case had made, that a few more convulsions would destroy her.

All hope of a favorable result was lost, inasmuch as the labor made no perceptible progress. The lethargy succeeding a paroxysm of convulsions was accompanied by a want of contractile power in the uterus, and as soon as this was in a measure regained, and the uterus began to contract, another paroxysm would occur, preventing the further progress of the labor.

Under these circumstances, I thought that if I could substitute the lethargy from the inhalation of ether, for the existing one, there would be a great point gained; *the one putting an entire stop to the labor, the other having no such effect.*

During the interval between each paroxysm, I had examined the state of the os uteri, hoping to find it dilated sufficiently to enable me to introduce my hand for the purpose of turning, but this was not the case, as there was very little dilatation. In a few minutes after the ninth paroxysm had passed off, I applied a sponge, well moistened with ether, over the mouth and nostrils. The patient soon began to rub her nose violently, pushing away the sponge as soon as it was re-applied, till she was prevented by holding her hands. Her countenance in a minute or two lost its deathly hue, and resumed a more natural appearance. In less than ten minutes the whole surface became warm, and much more natural.

The pulse fell to 125; the interval between the paroxysms increased more than one half, and their duration, when they did occur, was much lessened. Uterine contractions now ceased to have their former effect of bringing on the convulsions, *so that I could observe several distinct*

and efficient pains or contractions between the paroxysms. The os uteri, as a consequence, began to dilate, but not as yet sufficiently to admit of the introduction of the hand.

I did not venture to apply the sponge long enough to produce a complete lethargy, but removed it when her opposition to its application in a measure ceased. I was fearful, if a complete state of lethargy was induced in her then low condition, she might not re-act. After being three hours and half under the influence of the ether, the uterus was sufficiently dilatable to admit of the gradual introduction of the hand, the membranes which were still entire, were ruptured, and I succeeded in obtaining one foot, which was brought down and secured with a tape. Owing to the ungovernable restlessness of my patient, and to the powerful contractions of the uterus, I had great difficulty in finding the other; and when I had succeeded in getting it partly down, it offered so much resistance to my efforts, that I was apprehensive it might not be a fellow to the one I had. After comparing the direction of the toes, I ventured to exert a little more force, and brought away the child.

It was still living, though much exhausted; the lungs required inflation before it breathed, but after respiration was once established it did very well. The placenta came away promptly, and there was no flooding.

No vapor was given after the child was delivered. The mother still continued in a stupor, with convulsions at intervals of forty-five minutes, till 4 o'clock next morning, when they ceased. She took, during the night, as an antispasmodic, forty drops of tr. assafoetida in milk, at intervals of two hours. In the evening her pulse was 128, and quite feeble. I should mention that the convulsions had diminished in force, and continued to do so till they ceased.

At 8 in the morning, the stupor still continuing, she took ten grains of calomel, and in one hour a teaspoonful of fluid extract of senna, which was repeated every hour for four hours, when it operated on the bowels, producing copious black and very fetid evacuations. From this time she recovered rapidly; the day following she noticed some things and answered questions. Her tongue had been sadly bitten; she could not account for its soreness; has no recollection of anything that has occurred, and thinks it strange that her child could have been born without her knowledge. In two weeks she was about her room, having convalesced rapidly without an unpleasant symptom. The child, a fine boy, is doing well.—*Philadelphia Medical Examiner.*

OVARIAN TUMOR.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

SIR,—Having for a short time past attended upon a surgical case which to me has been very interesting (and probably will be to most of the numerous readers of your valuable Journal), I send you a history for insertion, hoping you will pardon me for troubling you with it.

Mrs. Colins, of this town, aged 35, had, for three years previous to

my seeing her, been troubled with ascites abdominalis (of Cullen), arising from (as her attending physician called it) liver complaint, with which she was troubled two or three years previous. The operation of paracentesis was performed several times, relieving her temporarily. The quantity of fluid drawn at the several times was nearly one hundred gallons. The usual treatment was practised. Hydragogue cathartics were ordered; also diuretics, tonics, auxiliaries, &c., too numerous to mention, but all to no effect.

About a year since she discovered a tumor on the right side, about the size of the human heart. This continued to increase rapidly, up to the time of my seeing her, and was occasionally examined by her attending physician and several others, some calling it uterine dropsy, others uterine polypus, uterine hydatids, ovarian hydatids, ovarian scirrhous, &c. &c. Some gave it as their opinion that neither of the above organs were diseased, and could give it no name (except tumor). Ten months after its appearance, I was called in consultation, the family supposing she would live but a short time, as her distress and pain were excessive.

Upon examination, I found a tumor occupying both sides of the abdomen, and lying directly across it, which it nearly filled, giving her the appearance of a woman at the full period of gestation. It was fourteen inches in length, eight from above below, and about six in depth. The uterus was low in the vagina, and thickened or enlarged as much as it should be two months after conception. Her catamenia had been regular (or nearly so) since her first sickness, up to this time. I advised an operation for ovarian ascites (or a collection of pus), as I thought I could plainly feel a fluctuation. Upon hearing this, more experienced council were sent for, as the doctors present did not agree with me, as to the locality or nature of the disease. Dr. Spencer, of Champion, Jefferson Co., an old and experienced surgeon, came, and upon examination found the above symptoms present, and called it ovarian hypertrophy. He tapped her for her original ascites, and at the same time passed the trocar partly into the tumor, but to no effect, except producing the discharge of about a pint of water streaked with blood. He then punctured on the left side with as little success (the former was in the linea alba). The doctor then desisted, made up a prescription, and left her in my care, telling her at the same time that she must soon die, from (unluckily) an incurable disease. Soon after, I made an opening into the tumor in the linea alba, but deeper than the doctor above mentioned, and in two hours it discharged about two and a half quarts of pus. For two months it discharged freely, but the discharge has now subsided. The tumor is nearly as large as a child's head at birth, but decreases daily. Her ascites has entirely left her (to all appearance), and she is about house helping herself, and occasionally visiting the neighbors; feels well, has a good appetite, &c.

P. S.—She is the mother of five children, and is quite willing, and even determined, to live long enough to give birth to as many more.

PETER O. WILLIAMS, M.D.

Gouverneur, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., Oct., 1847.

ETHER AND SURGERY IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

[Communicated for the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.]

At a time when all surgical cases in which the sulphuric ether is used are attracting notice, I have thought that the following memoranda of its employment in the practice of Dr. Dixi Crosby, Professor of Surgery in Dartmouth College, might not be entirely devoid of interest. As a student for a year past in the private medical school in this place, I have had the best opportunities for information. Owing to the obstacles thrown in the way of a general use of the ether at the first announcement of its properties, and the hesitancy with which a new remedy is always received, it was not till the latter part of last January that Dr. C. felt himself entirely at liberty to employ the ether in surgical cases. At that time, however, he was called to Barnet, Vt., say sixty miles from this place, to amputate the thigh of a Mr. Hall, for fungus hæmatodes. At the request of the patient the ether was exhibited, in the presence of a large number of gentlemen of the profession. The flap operation was performed in thirty-five seconds, and the effect of the ether was pronounced satisfactory for a first trial. Though the patient was evidently cachectic, the stump healed kindly, but within a month or two the disease appears to have attacked the lungs. On the next day Dr. C. exhibited the ether to a woman in Croydon, in this State, whose leg he amputated just above the ankle-joint for necrosis—and during the greater part of the time, the patient was in a profound sleep.

Passing over minor operations, in May last the ether was exhibited to a man, who, in celebrating the victories of our army in Mexico, had his wrist, and the lower part of the bones of the forearm, shattered by the premature discharge of a cannon. During the amputation, the patient was unconscious, excepting that he once noticed the reflection from one of the instruments, and before the stump was dressed was in a gentle slumber, apparently natural and refreshing. In all these cases Dr. C. exhibited a full dose of laudanum an hour before giving the ether, and he thinks with good effect.

The next use of the ether, worth recording, was in the latter part of August, and before the class now attending lectures in this place. The operation was for the removal of scirrhous of the breast, and the case is worthy of notice from the mode of performing it, being different from the ordinary one, and apparently superior, in suitable subjects, both in ease and rapidity of execution. The patient was quite fleshy, and the disease not very much advanced. The operation was performed as follows. The integuments on the upper side of the gland were raised, and a small catlin passed through horizontally, from without inwards, and being then carried downward and outward, to within say an inch of the nipple, formed a superior flap. An assistant raising the flap, Dr. C. grasped the gland, and with a scalpel dissected it out, only *forty seconds* having elapsed from the commencement to the completion of the operation. He afterwards remarked that in a similar case he should not again change his knife. The patient was completely under the influence of

the ether, and since the operation is doing well. Indeed, the recoveries were remarkably good in all these cases.

It is, perhaps, proper to state, that in one or two cases Dr. C. has failed to bring the patient under the influence of the ether, but more probably from a defect in the exhibition than any constitutional peculiarity.

Another case in which Dr. Crosby operated this month, is worthy of notice, although the ether was not used. It was the removal of a floating cartilage from the knee-joint, the operation being performed in the ordinary way. The cartilage, however, which was quite large and digitated, was not loose, but adherent by a small pedicle to the synovial membrane and semilunar cartilage, so as to require a touch of the knife to detach it.

Hanover, N. H., Sept., 1847.

EDWARD H. PARKER.

DR. ANTHONY COLLAMORE.

[Communicated for the Boston Med. and Surg. Journal.]

DIED, in Pembroke, Mass., 21st ult., Dr. Anthony Collamore, a worthy physician and an honest man. The disease which occasioned this sad bereavement was dilatation of both auricles and both ventricles of the heart, without hypertrophy. The columnæ carneæ were nearly obliterated, but the valves were in a perfectly healthy condition. The substance of the organ was very much softened—so much so that the walls were easily broken down between the thumb and finger. The pericardium was adherent to the heart, and also the diaphragm and mediastinum. Although confident that disease was preying upon his vitals, yet so slight was the uneasiness occasioned by the inflammation which must have been for some time steadily at work, bringing nearer and nearer the period of dissolution, that he was scarce ever detained from attending to the duties of his laborious profession.

Dr. C. had been a practitioner of medicine in Pembroke nearly forty years, and had gained the respect and confidence of all his townspeople, who now deeply lament his loss. He was one of those (shall I say) old-fashioned physicians, who never blazon forth their cures as wonderful. Though careful and cautious, yet he could be prompt and energetic when occasion demanded. Tender and sympathizing, he softened the pillow of the sick, and dropped a tear with relatives bereaved. Well can it be said, that those who knew him best, deplore him most.

F. C.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF DENTAL SURGEONS.

To the Editor of the Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.

DEAR SIR,—A certain man who signs his name A. C. Castle, M.D., and who seems to be a sort of amalgam dentist, has lately made himself somewhat notorious by publishing, in the London Lancet and in your Journal, narratives of wonderful cures which he claims to have performed

at 381 Broadway, N. York. His purpose in these publications seems to be twofold—to gain business and to deliver himself of spleen.

It seems that the American Society of Dental Surgeons have declared the use of amalgams for dental fillings injurious, and therefore unprofessional. Whoever shall give this matter a moment's thought, will perceive that these gentlemen could possibly have had no other than the most honorable motives to the course they pursued. The great cost of gold fillings is no little obstacle to the business of the dentist. Comparatively few persons can avail themselves of this mode of relief, and the expense of the material, when used as freely as it should be, often interferes to prevent the operator from receiving the compensation due him. Nothing, therefore, could be more desirable, because nothing could be more valuable, to the dentist, than the substitution of a cheap material for gold, in the operations he daily performs. It is, therefore, highly creditable to the American Society of Dental Surgeons that they have sacrificed their interest to the public good, and decried amalgams at heavy pecuniary cost to themselves.

But there are others, among whom this Dr. Castle seems to assume a bad pre-eminence, who will not give up their amalgams. It would be to "take away their gods, and what have they more?" With the same feeling as the Ephesians, they have less honesty in their complaint. "By this craft we have our wealth," said the workmen of Diana. Their remonstrance was perfectly natural, and so is Dr. Castle's.

For reasons in some way associated with his bitterness towards scientific dentists, Dr. C. makes dental colleges the particular subjects of his animadversions. An article published by him in the London Lancet, for which, as usual, he obtained admission by pretending to communicate a "case" quite as wonderful as that with which he has favored you, and, doubtless, quite as true, is replete with vulgar abuse of the dental institution of this city, and that published in your Journal is similarly libellous. With such a man, actuated by such a spirit, no gentleman could desire a controversy, nor would I notice his communications at all, were it not that he has made misrepresentations so boldly, that, appearing as they do in your very respectable Journal, some might be induced to believe them.

"Of what value," says this man, "I would ask, would be merely one course of anatomy, and 'the special anatomy and pathology' of the eye, in the work of producing a skilful and successful ophthalmic surgeon?" &c. "Yet we are told that such a course of mere lectures as is occasionally advertised *ad captandum* (to catch the gudgeons), will turn out a D.D.S., a Doctor of Dental Surgery—save the mark—say rather 'Doctor of Dental Stupidity,'" &c. Now Dr. Castle either knew that in giving this exhibition of the course of study pursued in the Dental College, he was stating falsehoods, or else he was grossly ignorant of that very course of instruction which he dares to hold up to public ridicule. Two full courses of lectures are required for graduation. The Faculty, however, have seen proper to admit to examination, after a single course, pupils who have previously attended a full course in a

respectable medical school, and dentists who have been four years in actual practice.

Again, mere lecturing does not comprise the means of acquiring knowledge furnished by the College. Lecturing, on the contrary, is but a subordinate part of the routine of tuition. Anatomy is taught in the dissecting room, and, owing to the small number of the classes compared with those attending medical colleges, our pupils are, I hesitate not to say, more likely to be well taught in this branch of professional learning than those of any other school in the country. Mechanical dentistry is taught in the workshops, to which the best part of the college building is appropriated. An excellent demonstrator, whose workmanship defies criticism, is constantly with the pupils while engaged in this department, while opportunities are daily offered by the infirmary connected with the institution, to witness and perform dental operations. If there be any better way of making scientific and successful dentists, Dr. C. should point it out. Surely no surgeon will deny that an institution for producing skilful and successful "ophthalmic surgeons," established upon a similar plan, would be far more successful than the attendance upon two courses of lectures on general surgery. The lectures are not advertised "occasionally." Full terms have been kept and lectures regularly delivered, since the opening of the College, seven years ago.

But the lectures are merely "ad captandum"—two Latin words which Dr. Castle thinks mean "to catch the gudgeons." Really, if this be so, it seems strange that Dr. Castle has escaped the hook. Perhaps if it had been baited with "amalgam," or some similar lure by which much money might be made with little skill, he might have been taken in; but as the College only offers the means by which industrious men may acquire knowledge and attain reputation in the exercise of patient labor, he was not tempted. Seriously, what does the man mean? Personally he knows nothing about the "lectures" or the College—where has he obtained his information? Men, the most distinguished in the dental profession, have visited the institution, and examined it for themselves. To these we appeal. Are Drs. Parmly, and Townsend, and Brown, and Roper, and Maynard, and such as they, are they "gudgeons"? And you, too, our estimable friend, who from time to time have advocated our cause, are you a "gudgeon"? Verily, judging by the *fishiness* of Dr. C.'s cases, the man seems to be more of a "gudgeon" than any of you.

One word as to these "cases." If Dr. Castle intends them as mere parables to illustrate his particular claims, I admit that, notwithstanding the rather oriental exaggeration and inaccurate pathology which mars them, they are not so very bad; but if he means them to be received as facts, which really occurred, I have only to say that if there be a man in New England whose forefathers believed in witches, and who has inherited sufficient credulity to enable him to believe that Dr. C. cured idiocy by extracting teeth, I earnestly commend these cases to his charity. As for me, I am pre-engaged. A neighbor of mine recently advertised

that he had cured palsy by a touch, and as he is backed by second testimony, I feel bound to swallow his story first; until this shall be fairly down, I cannot undertake anything as large as Dr. Castle's.

In conclusion, I will only say that if Dr. C. will imitate men wiser and of more reputation than himself; if he will enter a dental college as a pupil, and attend as many courses and exercise as much patience as he did to obtain the title he is so fond of sporting, he may ultimately learn to do something better than fill teeth with amalgam. That I suggest such a possibility, argues confidence in the efficiency of our means and mode of instruction, which could hardly be put to a severer test. In case Dr. C. should conclude to take this advice, I would recommend some preliminary study of the English language. His letter to the *Lancet* is in some parts entirely unintelligible, through deficiency in this particular.

Respectfully yours,

Baltimore, Md., October 4, 1847.

T. E. BOND, JR.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL.

BOSTON, OCTOBER 13, 1847.

Massachusetts Medical Society.—A quarterly meeting of the Counsellors of this Society was held at the Masonic Temple on Wednesday last, the day the *Journal* is published, which precluded the possibility of inserting even a synopsis of the transactions in last week's No. There has not been so many Counsellors together at an ordinary business meeting within the compass of our recollection. The circumstance even quite astonished one gentleman, who expressed his surprise, and exclaimed—"Mr. President, what is the meaning of this unusual congregation? Is there some design in it?" Dr. Howe, of Billerica, contrary to an impression abroad, took the chair, having withdrawn his letter declining the honor of the presidency. A long and unnecessarily tedious debate occurred in regard to a short report from the delegates of the Society to the National Medical Convention. Closely upon that, another came upon the tapis, which would have been admirable in a legislative body, where the object was solely to occupy the time in order to keep off another subject.

Everything else having been satisfactorily disposed of, Dr. Childs, of Pittsfield, introduced the following resolution:—

"Whereas, The great object of medical association is the advancement of medical science, and the promotion of harmony and good feeling in the profession, thereby contributing to the best interests of society—and whereas the present organization of the Massachusetts Medical Society does not fully meet these important objects—therefore, *Resolved*, that a change in the organization of the Massachusetts Medical Society is in our opinion deemed both wise and expedient—and that the change consist in making the basis of the State Society, local or county associations; in other words, having the State Society constituted by delegates annually chosen by the county associations, agreeably to the principle adopted in the States of

Connecticut, New York, Vermont, Ohio, and in most of the States in the Union."

Its introduction was like sending a fire-brand into a magazine of wet powder. There was no sudden explosion, but a general movement on the surface. By little and little, the ignition extended, and such a warming up of the quiescent old furnace has not occurred in that sedate circle for many a day. The Counsellor from Berkshire expressed himself with an unusual degree of energy and eloquence. Even those who most staunchly opposed the measures advocated by him for a re-organization of the Society, so that the profession in the western counties may profit by the association, admitted that the speaker was a man of strength, who pleaded his cause with commanding force and dignity. We shall not detail the various propositions for throwing overboard the petition for a remodelling of this venerable institution, which has, for a period of sixty years, conducted so many physicians and surgeons in peace, security and respectability; nor advert to the cogent and ingenious arguments urged upon the Council in favor of the scheme. After a protracted, as well as excited session, an unmistakable evidence of impatience being manifested by those wishing to take the afternoon cars, as well as by another division accustomed to dining before tea-time, a large committee was raised, to whom the subject was referred, and a report may be expected at the next meeting in February, when, it may safely be predicted, the Council will again be well attended.

Drs. Jeffreys of Boston, Peirson of Salem, Walker of Boston, Bartlett of Concord, and Childs of Pittsfield, were the prominent speakers on this exciting question. While some regretted, in private conversation, the introduction of this apple of discord, others were delighted with the discovery that there was some excitability in what they had doubtless considered as dry bones.

When the Berkshire gentlemen memorialized the General Court the past winter, and stated sundry grievances, such as the local wants of the members residing at a distance from Boston, and also the noticeable fact that about one hundred regularly-educated physicians, in western Massachusetts, could not become members of the Society in its present imperfect condition, the petition was very summarily put under the table, or, what was equivalent thereto, disregarded by the committee, which aroused the *Esculapian* blood on the sun-setting side of the Berkshire hills, whose excited members now seem disposed, like General Taylor, never to surrender.

Dr. Ware's Medical Discourses.—An extra accumulation of books, pamphlets, &c., last week, prevented a notice of these discourses, two of which are on medical education, and the third on the duties and qualifications of physicians. They are from the pen of John Ware, M.D., Hersey Professor of Theory and Practice of Physic in the University at Cambridge.

Distant readers cannot all be familiar with the writings, official relations, or local standing, of those of our New England physicians, whose influence is actually felt far beyond the immediate circle of their personal friends and acquaintances. Those who assist in educating practitioners of medicine and surgery, must necessarily contribute essentially to the formation of the professional character of the country. Opinions from

a chair that commands respect, presented to young and plastic minds, like the small seeds of some orders of plants, are wafted over the earth, and though hardly perceptible to the eye, they are full of vitality, and take root, and multiply ten thousand fold. Dr. Ware is a plain, unostentatious writer, who makes use of no unnecessary phrases to gain the reader's attention. He argues a case clearly, and there leaves it. Another peculiar feature in these papers, is, that they will be constantly improving by age. Yet there may be some individuals, especially such as have no capacity for appreciating the beauties of that ennobling system of moral accountability which Dr. Ware recognizes as the first and noblest trait in the character of a physician, who will skip over the pages, impressed with the idea that they are dull, or the style too heavy, and the whole matter unreasonably grave. For such, no order of reasoning possesses a charm, and it would be a waste of labor to attempt to persuade them to like what they cannot comprehend. On the other hand, gentlemen of professional attainments, united with cultivated taste in all departments of life, who sit down for the express purpose of ascertaining the object Dr. Ware must have had in view when he sent the manuscript to press, will rise from the perusal with respect for one whose ambition seems to be, to develop in the hearts of those devoted to the healing art, a profound sense of duty and moral accountability.

Whether it was a part of the writer's design that these discourses should be a library book when further additions are made, the materials for which are unquestionably in existence, or simply pass in the light of an ephemeral contribution, in its present form, we know not. In either case we acknowledge our obligations to Dr. Ware for what he has already done, and is doing, to give character to a profession which he adorns, and assure him that he might operate upon a long lever to move the profession most advantageously, were he to address them through the press much more frequently.

Chelius's Surgery.—Messrs. Lea & Blanchard, with their accustomed enterprise, have brought out a great work from the German, that is not only exceedingly copious, but also admirable in its details. Some months since, we alluded to several of the numbers which had been received, without being able to speak of the merits or defects that might be prominent, were the whole seen in connection.

J. M. Chelius, the author, is a doctor in medicine, a professor of ophthalmic surgery, and director of a clinic in that department at the University of Heidelberg. Having passed through six editions at home—a trying test of its worth, for a poor book on surgery cannot very readily be sold in that country of exacting scholarship, Germany—a translation into English was carried through successfully, by John F. South, one of the surgeons of St. Thomas's Hospital, London. Mr. South gave additional value to a confessedly superior treatise on surgery, by appending notes and practical observations of his own. Lastly, the work has been Americanized, by having passed under the critical examination of Dr. G. W. Norris, of Philadelphia, who has supplied references to the surgical literature, especially, of the United States.

There are three large, elegantly-printed volumes, comprising an immense amount of matter. They are so formidable in dimensions that we cannot decide where to begin to analyze, and must content ourselves with this brief notice, and by recommending them to the favor of every reader.

Introductory Lectures.—A custom has grown into general favor, in nearly all the Medical Schools in the United States, of publishing introductory lectures delivered on the occasion of opening the annual terms, which has developed a new order of writings among us. Some of these discourses are admirable specimens of mental effort, redounding to the reputation of their authors and of the country. We shall refer, as we have opportunity, to this peculiar class of publications, and we invite correspondents to send us notices of such lectures as are not published, which may be heard by them, always remembering not to be too diffuse, nor unrighteously severe.

The first of these addresses that has reached us the present autumnal season, was delivered at the Castleton Medical College, Vt., by William Sweetser, M.D., Professor of Theory and Practice of Medicine. His reputation is established as a writer, and were this pamphlet praised or condemned, it would have no influence whatever, either in diminishing or extending the circle of his friends. Although, as a whole, this is a judiciously prepared paper, it is not particularly striking in any point, and we have no room this week for extracts from it.

Another introductory received, is by Professor Dewey, of the Berkshire Medical Institution. This gentleman is a veteran in science. He is one of those profoundly learned men, who are never properly estimated till they die, and then the world wakes up to their merits on discovering the void that is made in society, and wonders why such powers were not universally appreciated, and justice meted out in full to the living philosopher. Professor D. held a prominent place in Williams College in early life, and since the organization of the Berkshire Medical Institution, has filled the chair of Chemistry. His name, therefore, after so many years of useful service, is as familiar to northern ears, as the sound of the church bell. It is our object now, however, to look into his last introductory lecture, since no praises are needed from us to make known the author's claims or position in Massachusetts. First—the discourse is extremely interesting, because it abounds in plain, common sense thoughts, and suggests what is not only practical, but possible; which is not always true of popular addresses. Next—the allusions to the National Medical Convention, and the respectful manner of commenting upon its propositions, together with the elevated expressions touching medical education in general, show that Professor Dewey is both a friend to science and those who are devoted to the details of medical practice. Lastly—there are many historical items, accompanied by notes to illustrate the text, which are of every-day value, chronologically considered, and will cause this lecture to be frequently consulted hereafter.

Principles and Practice of Physic.—A third American edition of Lectures on the Principles and Practice of Physic, by Thomas Watson, M.D., revised, with additions, by Francis Condie, M.D., of Philadelphia, an eminent writer on the diseases of children, has lately been sent forth by those great medical publishers, Messrs. Lea & Blanchard.

We have been so much taken by surprise with new and highly prized volumes, within the last few days, that an opportunity has not yet been afforded for a thorough examination; but we are progressing, and intend soon to report progress.

Medical Professorships at the West.—Dr. L. M. Lawson has accepted the appointment of Professor of Materia Medica, Therapeutics and General Pathology in the Medical College of Ohio, and in consequence has resigned the Chair of Anatomy and Physiology which he has held in the Transylvania University. Dr. L. is editor of the Western Lancet, which was formerly published in Cincinnati, but was removed with the editor to Lexington, and now returns with him to the former place.

Boston Dispensary.—The whole number of cases treated by the Physicians of the Boston Dispensary during the year ending Sept 30, was 3290—of which, 2323 are reported as recovered, and 127 died. The number of "Bostonians" in this list is stated in the Abstract of Reports as 163; other Americans, 458; Hibernico-Americans, 657; Irish, 1874. Only 150 of the patients are reported as intemperate.

The New York Annalist.—The second volume of this periodical, being "A Record of Practical Medicine in the City of New York," and published semi-monthly, appears under new and favorable auspices. Dr. Wm. C. Roberts continues the editor, but it is to be published hereafter by Messrs. R. & G. S. Wood. The Annalist contains interesting reports from the medical institutions of New York, and the editor's own labors show him to be well qualified for collecting the annals of medicine in that city, and for all other editorial duties. We wish him great success.

Ledoyen's Disinfecting Fluid.—The last No. of the British American Journal of Medicine and Physical Science contains the following notice respecting Ledoyen's disinfecting fluid, in which we have not a particle of confidence. It is said the article may be easily prepared by decomposing a solution of acetate of lead by nitric acid, thus setting free acetic acid, the use of which as a disinfectant, so called, has been long known.

"Since our last issue, Mr. Ledoyen, with Col. Calvert, has appeared in town, and they have been busily engaged in experimenting with their fluid, both at the Montreal General Hospital, and Emigrant Hospital at Pointe St. Charles. We have been witness to some of their experiments at the former establishment; and can testify to the purification of the vitiated air of the water closets, and a ward in the Hospital in which the atmosphere had been highly impregnated with effluvia emanating from soil purposely exposed. We are, nevertheless, still unconvinced of its being a disinfectant in the true sense of the term. A more proper term expressive of its actual powers would, we think, have been antibromic.

"Sir William Burnett's fluid (chloride of zinc) has had its powers tested under similar circumstances, under the supervision of Dr. Stratton, R. N., who is also in town with that object in view. The experiments with it, as far as we have learned, have proved equally as satisfactory as those with that of Mr. Ledoyen."

Venetian Congress of Naturalists.—The annual congress of naturalists is about to meet at Venice. Count Giovanni, President of the Venetian Society of Naturalists, has, it is said, disbursed 1,000,000 francs in making

the necessary preparations in his palace for the sittings. A great number of savans, from different parts of Europe, and upwards of 10,000 foreigners, have already arrived at Venice.

Lunatic Asylums in Ireland.—Orders have been issued for the erection of district lunatic asylums in the following places:—Near Mullingar; near Dublin, in addition to the present Richmond Asylum; and near Omagh. Each of them is to be made capable of accommodating 300 lunatic poor.

Marine Hospital, Port of Boston.—The Report of the United States Marine Hospital, Chelsea, for the quarter ending September 30, 1847, is as follows:—Sick or disabled seamen in the Hospital July 12, 69; received during the quarter, 261—total, 330. Discharged, cured or relieved, 242; died, 11; remaining Sept. 30, 77—total, 330.

Progress of the Cholera.—This terrible scourge had manifested itself at Rostoff, Marianopolis, and other towns of Southern Russia. At Rostoff, in less than three weeks, it had swept off 2,000 persons out of a population of about 8,000. The invasion of the malady had caused so great a terror, that all communication between Rostoff and Odessa was interrupted, the postmasters along the road having abandoned their establishments.

Medical Miscellany.—Cholera prevails in the Francaucasian provinces of Russia, but not alarmingly.—The Scientific Congress of France opened its fifteenth sitting on the first of September.—The typhus fever was on the increase at Glasgow, when the last steamer sailed. At Edinburgh the daily average was 30 cases.—A painful rumor is current that a physician is suspected of having been concerned in the murder of a Mr. Matthews, in Maine.—A great variety of beautiful dental work was on exhibition at the late Quincy Hall fair. By ingenious clock machinery, artificial jaws of porcelain teeth were continually opening and closing, as spectators were passing along.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Cases at Bellevue Hospital, "Paracelsus" on Medical Ethics, "Claudian" on Amenorrhœa and Menorrhagia, and a translation on the treatment of Ileus, have been received.

MARRIED.—At Cambridge, Mass., W. W. Wellington, M.D., to Miss M. B. Carter.—Dr. Daniel Penbody, of Broadbrook, Conn., to Miss S. Fiske.—Dr. Thomas H. Trask, of Boston, to Miss M. F. H. King.—Dr. Elan C. Knight, of Slaterville, R. I., to Miss M. J. Cross.

DIED.—At Pembroke, Mass., Anthony Collamore, M.D., 60.—At Providence, R. I., Dr. Thos. Cleveland, 45.—At Augusta, Me., Dr. I. Snell, killed by being thrown from a waggon.—At Salina, Mexico, Dr. J. Howard Smith, of the U. S. N., 30—distinguished for the power of his memory.—At Belfast, Ireland, B. M'Avoy, Esq., Surgeon of the Royal Navy.

Report of Deaths in Boston—for the week ending Oct. 9th. 96.—Males, 61—females, 35.—Stillborn, 5. Of consumption, 9—typhus fever, 16—disease of the bowels, 17—dysentery, 19—diarrhœa, 10—cholera infantum, 2—marasmus, 3—disease of the heart, 1—infantile, 5—croup, 4—teething, 1—inflammation of the lungs, 1—smallpox, 1—old age, 2—dropsy on the brain, 2—canker, 1—brain fever, 2.

Under 5 years, 39—between 5 and 20 years, 9—between 20 and 40 years, 27—between 40 and 60 years, 13—over 60 years, 8.

Private Hospital for the Insane at Chicago.—Dr. Edward Mearns, late of St. Charles, Illinois, has resigned his place in the medical department of Illinois College, at Jacksonville, and removed to Chicago, for the purpose of opening a private hospital for the insane. For immediate use he has taken a private dwelling where the patients may receive better care than at their own homes, and already has several cases upon his hands which were so urgent as not to admit of delay in treatment.

He has procured, in the vicinity of the city, twenty acres of ground, favorably situated, upon which he will proceed to erect suitable buildings for permanent use. This will be ready for the reception of patients during the approaching autumn. There is no hospital for insane persons, in operation, within several hundred miles of Chicago, and none in any part of the United States not already filled to overflowing, so that the establishment of this seems a matter of urgent necessity.—*Ill. and Ind. Med. Journal.*

Diarrhœa of Children.—The diarrhœa which accompanies or follows the period of weaning is often fatal; it is not only observable in children who are suddenly deprived of the breast, but also in those who are nursed for too long a period. Dr. Weisse, physician to the Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, advises the exhibition of raw meat in such cases, and asserts that he has from this practice often derived the most signal advantages. The meat should be hashed, or reduced into a pulp, and two table-spoonfuls may be at first given in four meals.—*Med. Times, from Annales de la Société Méd. Chir. de Bruges.*

**TREMONT STREET MEDICAL SCHOOL,
IN BOSTON, OVER 33 TREMONT ROW.**

This School was instituted in Boston in 1838, for the purpose of giving to private pupils a thorough Course of Instruction by Lectures and Examinations throughout the year. Exercises are given daily, from the close of the University Lectures in March till their commencement in November, with the exception of August.

Theory and Practice and Materia Medica, by Dr. BIGELOW.

Midwifery, Medical Jurisprudence and Diseases of Children, by Dr. STORER.

Anatomy and Physiology, by Dr. HOLMES.

Pathological Anatomy, by Dr. J. B. S. JACKSON.

Surgery and Chemistry, by Dr. HENRY J. BIGELOW.

The room in Tremont street is open from 6 A.M. to 10 P.M. It is furnished with apparatus, preparations and plates illustrative of Anatomy and other branches, and with a collection of the important articles of the Materia Medica.

Students of this institution have gratuitous access to the Massachusetts General Hospital and to the Eye and Ear Infirmary. Clinical instruction is given at the Hospital throughout the year, by Drs. Bigelow, Jackson, Holmes, and Henry J. Bigelow. Sufficient opportunities are afforded for experience in Obstetric practice, and ample facilities for the pursuit of Practical Anatomy, without extra charges.

The regular exercises will commence on the first of March. During the Winter months, Dissections are continued, and examinations are held upon the subjects of the lectures at the University College. Auscultation and Percussion are practically taught throughout the year.

Extra courses of lectures on particular subjects are given in summer by various gentlemen in their respective branches.

The following courses were delivered during the past year:—On Chemistry, by Dr. Charles T. Jackson; on Pathological Anatomy, by Dr. J. B. S. Jackson; on Diseases of the Eye, by Dr. Bethune; on Midwifery, by Dr. Storer; on Microscopical Anatomy, by Dr. Holmes.

Lectures on the following subjects are engaged for the present season:—On Embryology, by Prof. Agassiz; on Comparative Anatomy, by Dr. Wyman; on Diseases of the Skin, by Dr. Gordon; on Pathological Anatomy, by Dr. J. B. S. Jackson; on Medical Jurisprudence, by Dr. Storer; on Microscopical Anatomy, by Dr. Holmes; on Surgical Pathology, by Dr. H. J. Bigelow.

* A catalogue of the past and present members of this School, with a full account of the Institution, may be had gratis at Burnett's Apothecary store, 33 Tremont Row; at Ticknor's bookstore, corner of School and Washington streets; or at French's bookstore, 78 Washington street.

July 29—ep

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